

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-15 (canceled).

16. (previously added) A sander, comprising:
- a frame;
 - a platen;
 - an abrasive associated with the platen;
 - a drive mechanism interconnecting the platen and the frame, configured to move the abrasive in an orbital motion superimposed on a second motion; and
 - a conveyor for conveying objects to be sanded in a feed direction toward the platen.
17. (previously added) The sander of claim 16, where the second motion is a circular motion.
18. (previously added) The sander of claim 17, where the circular motion is a circular translational orbit.
19. (previously added) The sander of claim 17, where the circular motion is a circular rotation.
20. (previously added) The sander of claim 16, where the abrasive is an abrasive sheet.
21. (previously added) The sander of claim 16, where the abrasive is secured to the platen.

22. (previously added) The sander of claim 21, where the abrasive is secured to the platen by an adhesive.

23. (previously added) The sander of claim 21, where the abrasive is secured to the platen by one or more mechanical clips.

24. (previously added) The sander of claim 16, where the drive mechanism includes a bearing mechanism configured to permit rotation of the platen.

25. (previously added) The sander of claim 16, further comprising one or more additional platens, each platen superimposing an orbital motion on a second motion.

26. (previously added) The sander of claim 25, each platen superimposing an orbital motion on a rotational motion.

27. (previously added) A sander, comprising:

a frame;

a plurality of platens; each platen having an abrasive sheet secured to the platen, and each platen being connected to the frame by a drive mechanism that moves the platen in an orbital motion superimposed on a rotational motion; and

a conveyor having a feed direction for conveying objects to be sanded toward the platens.

28. (previously added) The sander of claim 27, where the platens are arranged side-by-side in at least one row above the conveyor.

29. (previously added) The sander of claim 28, where the platens are arranged in a spaced-apart relationship with the conveyor that extends substantially across the conveyor generally crosswise to the feed direction.

30. (previously added) The sander of claim 27, where each platen is connected to a drive shaft that is configured to impart an orbital motion to the platen.

31. (previously added) The sander of claim 30, where the rotational motion is the rotation of each platen relative to the respective drive shaft.

32. (previously added) A sander, comprising:

a frame;

at least one rotatable platen, connected to the frame by a single shaft assembly configured to impart an orbital motion superimposed on a rotational motion;

an abrasive sheet secured to the platen;

a conveyor for conveying objects to be sanded toward the platen.

33. (previously added) The sander of claim 32, further comprising at least one additional rotatable platen connected to the frame by a shaft assembly configured to impart an orbital motion superimposed on a rotational motion.

34. (previously added) A sander, comprising:

a frame;

a first platen;

an abrasive sheet secured to the platen;

a first drive shaft interconnecting the platen and the frame, configured to move the platen in an orbital motion;

a bearing mechanism interconnecting the platen and the first drive shaft, configured to permit the platen to move in a circular motion relative to the first drive shaft; and

a conveyor for conveying objects to be sanded in a feed direction toward the platen.

35. (previously added) The sander of claim 34, where the circular motion is a rotational motion.

36. (previously added) The sander of claim 35, further comprising at least one additional platen, adjacent to the first platen, each platen having a drive shaft and a bearing mechanism configured to superimpose an orbital motion and a rotational motion on the platen.

37. (previously added) The sander of claim 36, where the platens are arranged side-by-side above the conveyor.

38. (new) A sander, comprising:

a frame;

an abrasive sheet structure;

a drive mechanism interconnecting the frame and the abrasive sheet structure, configured to move the abrasive sheet structure in an orbital motion superimposed on a second motion; and

a conveyor for conveying objects to be sanded in a feed direction toward the abrasive sheet structure.

39. (new) The sander of claim 38, where the abrasive sheet structure includes a sheet of sandpaper.

40. (new) The sander of claim 38, where the second motion is a circular motion.

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41. (new) The sander of claim 40, where the second motion is a translational orbit.

42. (new) The sander of claim 38, further comprising a platen, configured to urge the abrasive sheet structure against objects to be sanded.

43. (new) The sander of claim 42, where the abrasive sheet structure includes a sheet of sandpaper secured to the platen.

44. (new) The sander of claim 42, where the motion of the abrasive sheet structure is determined solely by the movement of the platen.

45. (new) The sander of claim 42, where the platen and the abrasive sheet structure move together.

46. (new) The sander of claim 42, where the platen includes a planar surface for urging the abrasive sheet structure against objects to be sanded.

47. (new) The sander of claim 42, where the platen includes a deformable pad attached to the bottom surface of the platen.

48. (new) The sander of claim 42, where the platen is an elongate platen that is disposed perpendicular to the feed direction of the conveyor.